

Disadvantaged Communities

Panel 1



Workshop for Defining and Developing Alternative
Proposals for Disadvantaged Communities
April 7, 2015

Disadvantaged Communities

- Disadvantaged Community should be defined and based on economic need.
- Consistent with other Commission programs which seek to provide assistance to customers with greater need.
- The goal should be to ensure that these customers have comparable access to the adoption of renewable generation.

Economically Disadvantaged

- The “Economically Disadvantaged” have been defined by the CPUC
- California Solar Initiative
 - Single-family Affordable Solar Homes
 - Multi-family Affordable Solar Homes
- Energy Bill Discount Programs
 - California Alternate Rates for Energy (CARE) Program
 - Family Electric Rate Assistance (FERA) Program

Low-Income Solar Program Eligibility

- AB 2327 defined Low Income Residential Housing for the California Solar Initiative (CSI) to stimulate the adoption of solar power in the affordable housing sector.
- Single-family Affordable Solar Homes Program
 - The household's total income must be 80% of the Area Median Income (AMI) or less based on the most recent available income tax return.
 - Eligibility for a highly subsidized solar system is determined by the applicant's Federal Income Tax liability and eligibility for the California Alternative Rates for Energy (CARE) Program.
- Multi-family Affordable Solar Homes Program
 - Targeted at existing multifamily affordable housing that meets the definition of low-income residential housing set forth in Pub. Util. Code § 2852
 - Financed with low-income housing tax credits, tax-exempt mortgage revenue bonds, general obligation bonds, or local, state or federal loans or grants. The housing must also meet the definition of low-income households in Health and Safety Code § 50079.5)

Energy Bill Discount Eligibility

- Based upon total current household income
- California Alternate Rates for Energy (CARE) Program
 - Low Income
 - 200% of the federal poverty level for income eligibility or participation in any of 11 public assistance programs for categorical eligibility
 - Qualify for Energy Savings Assistance program
- Family Electric Rate Assistance (FERA) Program
 - Lower-middle Income
 - 200% plus \$1 and 250% of the Federal Poverty Limit